

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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15 70

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 EUR-10 IO-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 L-02 DPW-01 PRS-01 NSC-10

NSCE-00 RSR-01 /070 W

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P 220110 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO CINCPAC PRIORITY

USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1931

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8910

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (T E X T)

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, CS

SUBJECT: ICCS INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED U. S. BOMBING IN MR. III

THE FOLLOWING SENT SAIGON FROM AMCONSUL CAN THO 21 MAY 73 NE
REPEATED TO YOU FOR YOUR ACTION AND INFO. QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAN THO 0338

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, CA, VS

SUBJECT: ICCS INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED US BOMBING IN MR III

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1. AMBASSADOR GAUVIN HAS ALERTED THE REGION VII CANADIAN ICCS CHIEF, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICER MANFRED VON NOSTITZ, TO BE PREPARED TO HEAD CANADA'S ICCS TEAM INVESTIGATING ALLEGED US BOMBING IN MR III. GAUVIN, USING SOMEWHAT SALTIER LANGUAGE, TOLD VON NOSTITZ THAT HE DID NOT WANT ANY MISTAKES MADE IN THIS PARTICULAR INVESTIGATION. VON NOSTITZ THINKS THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THE INVESTIGATION WILL BOG DOWN OVER THE FLIGHT CORRIDOR ISSUE.

2. IF THE PRG DOES BOW TO THE CANADIANS ON FLIGHT CORRIDOR WIDTH, VON NOSTITZ WILL PUT TOGETHER A TEAM OF CANADIAN OFFICERS EXPERT IN ORDNANCE, CRATER ANALYSIS, AND TACTICAL AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS TO ASSIST HIM. BASED ON HIS PREVIOUS ICC EXPERIENCE-- INVESTIGATING SIHANOUK'S COMPLAINTS OF US BOMBING IN CAMBODIA-- VON NOSTITZ BELIEVES PM IS POSSIBLE THAT THE INVESTIGATION WILL INDICATE A "FAKE VIOLATION". HE SAID

THAT HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THE US WOULD BE "FOOLISH" ENOUGH TO SO OBVIOUSLY VIOLATE THE CEASEFIRE. SO SAYING, HE THEN MUSED WITHOUT FURTHER ELABORATION THAT, "OF COURSE IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE US EMBASSY KNEW NOTHING ABOUT IT."

3. VON NOSTITZ IS A HIGHLY CAPABLE OFFICER WHO CAN BE EXPECTED TO SUBMIT THE PRG COMPLAINT TO A CRITICAL EXAMINATION. HIS PREVIOUS SERVICE IN HANOI AND HIS RECENT DEALINGS WITH THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS HAVE INSTILLED A

HEALTHY CYNICISM ABOUT COMMUNIST NEGOTIATING TACTICS. HE IS NOT LIKELY TO LET THE PRG GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING MORE THAN IT CAN PROVE WITH HARD EVIDENCE.

BARNES UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE

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TAGS: MARR, CS
To: BUDAPEST
CINCPAC
EA
JAKARTA
JEC PARIS
OTTAWA
SECSTATE WASHDC

WARSAW

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